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PATENT  
450100-03261

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shigeyoshi HIRASHIMA et al.

Serial No. : 09/894,689

Filed : June 27, 2001

For : CONNECTION APPARATUS, CONNECTING METHOD, AND  
STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING COMPUTER-READABLE  
PROGRAM HAVING CONNECTING FUNCTIONS

Art Unit : 2182

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151  
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Glenn F. Savit, Reg. No. 37,437

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

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Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the

attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding Singapore application on August 18, 2003. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

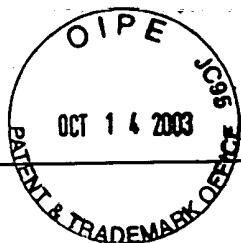
Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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Based on Form PTO-1449  
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ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
450100-03261

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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT  
Shigeyoshi HIRASHIMA et al.

FILING DATE  
June 27, 2001

GROUP  
2182

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5 930 553	07/27/99	Hirst et al.			
	AB	5 786 828	07/28/98	Yamamoto			
	AC	5 519 418	05/21/96	Nishikawa et al.			
	AD						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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